

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A lighting unit comprising:

a pushbutton;

a switch device for performing electrical ON-OFF by depressing said pushbutton;

an electroluminescent (EL) device including a light-emitting section corresponding to said pushbutton provided to at least one of above and under said switch device, said pushbutton extending through said EL device so that said EL device remains stationary while said pushbutton moves,

wherein the light-emitting section of said EL device includes at least one of an optically transparent electrode layer and a backplate layer, formed partially on an optically transparent insulating base, both of the layers and a first light-emitting layer laminated on the optically transparent insulating base, and a dielectric layer between the backplate layer and the first light-emitting layer.

2. (Original) The lighting unit of claim 1, wherein said EL device includes another light-emitting section corresponding to a display device placed beside said pushbutton.

3. (Currently Amended) The lighting unit of claim 1, further comprising:

an optically transparent intermediate electrode layer laminated between the optically transparent electrode layer and the backplate layer; and

a second light-emitting layer ~~provided~~ provides between the intermediate electrode layer and the backplate layer,

wherein the first light-emitting layer ~~provided~~ provides between the optically transparent electrode layer and the intermediate electrode layer, and

wherein the first light emitting layer emits light in different color from the second light emitting layer.

4. (Currently Amended) A lighting apparatus comprising:

a lighting unit including

a switch device for performing electrical ON-OFF by depressing a pushbutton; and

an electroluminescent (EL) device including a light-emitting section corresponding to said pushbutton provided to at least one of above and under said switch device, said pushbutton extending through said EL device so that said EL device remains stationary while said pushbutton moves,

wherein the light-emitting section of said EL device includes at least one of an optically transparent electrode layer and a backplate layer, formed partially on an optically transparent insulating base, and both of the layers and a light-emitting layer, laminated on the optically transparent insulating base, and a dielectric layer between the backplate layer and the light-emitting layer; and

a control circuit, coupled to said lighting unit, for controlling light emission from said EL device; and

wherein said lighting unit is for illuminating said push button.

5. (Original) The lighting apparatus of claim 4, wherein said control circuit controls said EL device by depressing a predetermined pushbutton.

6. (Currently Amended) A lighting apparatus comprising:

a lighting unit including

a switch device for performing electrical ON-OFF by depressing a pushbutton; and

an electroluminescent (EL) device including a light-emitting section corresponding to said pushbutton provided to at least one of above and under said switch device, said pushbutton extending through said EL device so that said EL device remains stationary while said pushbutton moves,

wherein the light-emitting section of said EL device includes at least one of an optically transparent electrode layer and a backplate layer, formed partially on an optically transparent insulating base, both of the layers and a light-emitting layer, laminated on the optically transparent insulating base and a dielectric layer between the backplate layer and the light-emitting layer; and

a control circuit, coupled to said lighting unit, said control unit for controlling light emission from said EL device; and

wherein said light unit is for illuminating a display device adjacent said push button.

7. (Original) The lighting apparatus of claim 6, wherein said control circuit controls said EL device by depressing a predetermined pushbutton.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein said switch device includes a movable contact and said EL device is between a top of said pushbutton and said movable contact.

10. (Previously Presented) A lighting unit according to claim 4, wherein said switch device includes a movable contact and said EL device is between a top of said pushbutton and said movable contact.